

# HOUSTON LUTHERAN CHORALE

HLC Newsletter

November 2016

## *From the President's Desk*

I hope all who came to our 4th of July event had as much fun listening to the concert as the chorale had in performing it. What better way to spend the day remembering the birth of America than to listen to patriotic music, eat hot dogs, and watch the firework display. It was a lot of work preparing the music and the food, but I think it was well worth while.

And now, since mid-August, we have been working on music for our Christmas concerts under the direction of Kerry Talley which will be held at Trinity Lutheran -Downtown on December 3 at 7 PM and December 4 at 4 PM . There will be familiar songs included in which the audience will be encouraged to participate by singing along. It will be a good way to set the season and to remember the birth of our Savior, the King, who was born to such humble circumstances in a manger in Bethlehem.

The Houston Lutheran Chorale thanks all those who have supported us over the years with their prayers, with their attendance at our concerts, and with their generous donations. Please pray for the chorale so that we may continue to praise God through our music. I hope to see everyone at one of our concerts. I am sure you will enjoy the program.

Robert Heth, President

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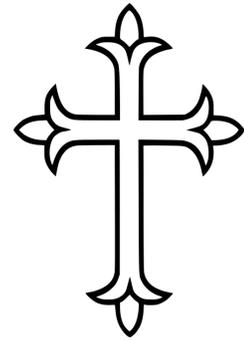
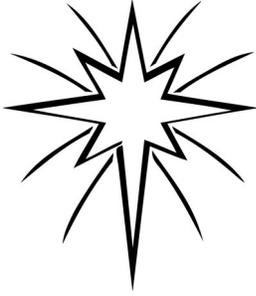
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*Bob Heth, President*

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## **A Star....A Manger.....A Promise**

I must begin this article with many “thank-yous”. Thank you to the wonderful members of the Houston Lutheran Chorale for presenting a successful Fourth of July Concert. Thank you to the supportive Board. Thank you to the many volunteers who provided the food and drink after the concert. Thank you to Aaron Hervey for hiring the outstanding instrumentalists and for being the best accompanist and colleague that I could ever hope to know. Thank you to all the audience members who supported our performance by their attendance. Thank you to all the alumni who came to show their support. Thank you to Mary Voight and to all the people of Trinity Lutheran Church who helped to make our concert a success. Thank you to Shawn Squire, Mike Harbison, and Alejandro Venegas for providing sound and PowerPoint. And, a very special heart-felt thank you to Jason Mangels and family for attending the concert and showing their support of the new director.

As we prepare for our Christmas Concerts, I am excited and confident about the prospects for outstanding performances. The Chorale members have been working hard on the music since mid-August, and the progress has been very encouraging. The theme or title of the Christmas Concerts is: “A Star...A Manger...A Promise”. Through the music, we remember the star that broadcast the birth and we “follow the star to Bethlehem to see the Son of Mary.” In Bethlehem, we find the shepherds, the animals, the angels, and the Holy Family. We find “a manger that harbored strangers and stars veiled in darkness on that night long ago, where points of promise were a baby’s first light.” In that dirty, smelly, humble manger we see God’s promise to the ages fulfilled, and we cannot help but be in awe and great joy as the angels proclaim “glory to the newborn King.”

We ask you to join us on our Christmas journey through music. It is our prayer as we prepare this music that God will come to all of us once again as we sing to glorify His name. May He continue to bless you richly during the Advent and Christmas seasons as we proclaim “Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King!

Sincerely,

Mr. Kerry Talley

Director, Houston Lutheran Chorale



## Who Are We?

The Houston Lutheran Chorale is comprised of singers from multiple Lutheran congregations throughout the greater Houston area. Our members come from as far away as Huntsville and Galveston to sing praises to Our Savior and bring His message to all. We range in age from 80+ to teenagers. Few have had formal training, most of us are folks who just like to sing. Kerry is patient with us and has been teaching as well as directing.

We have become a family sharing happy and sad times. We hope you will consider joining us in the spring.

Jason Mangels and the Chorale

## 4th of July Concert - a Huge Success

Over 400 concert goers celebrated the 4th of July, 2016, with us as we joined in song and patriotic fanfare. The concert emphasized all American music including a wide range of times and styles. We enjoyed having the congregation join us in song, as we always do, but the highlight was the posting of the colors of the various branches of the services while we sang their songs. What a thrill to see the veterans rise for the salute to their particular branch and for us to be able to give them a round of applause in addition to their songs.

After the concert we gathered in the gym for our annual hot dog/frito pie feast. Many thanks to Quinta and Buzz Loeschman for their leadership to get the event organized. Thanks to all who assisted and helped pay for this activity. It is a highlight of the evening. It seems people especially like the ice cream we have. It went fast, no leftovers.

Decorations made the gym into a true party venue. It is amazing what can be done with a little crepe paper, some hats, flags, stars and stripes and streamers. We all felt like celebrating when we went outside to watch the fireworks from downtown Houston. Perfect evening for a perfect event.

See you there next year.....join us and bring your entire fam-

## DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

If you are looking for opportunities to donate in support of the Houston Lutheran Chorale, here are two that you may not have thought of:

Thrivent—Choice Dollars: Just sign in to Thrivent, go to Choice Dollars. To choose the charity, type in Houston Lutheran Chorale. Then either select the entire amount of your choice dollars or enter a different amount.

Amazon Smile—Sign into Amazon in this way: <http://smile.amazon.com> After signing in, towards the top left of center you should see SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION in orange. At that point enter Houston Lutheran Chorale. After that every time you sign in to <http://smile.amazon.com>, Houston Lutheran Chorale should show up as the supporting organization. A small percentage of your purchase will then be

**Houston Lutheran Chorale**  
800 Houston Avenue  
Houston, TX 77007

### **A Star...A Manger...A Promise**

**December 3, 2016**

**7:00 PM**

**December 4, 2016**

**4:00 PM**

**800 Houston Ave**

**Trinity Lutheran -  
Downtown**

**Begin Your Cele-  
bration of the  
Birth of Christ in  
Song**

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